

MARCH 19, 2014 – NOTES OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE SEVIER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AT A MEETING HELD ON MARCH 19, 2014, AT 3:00 PM IN THE SEVIER SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE.

In attendance were President Clint Johnson, Vice President Jack Hansen, members Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr as were Superintendent Cade Douglas, Assistant Superintendent Gail Albrecht, Business Administrator Chad Lloyd, and Executive Secretary Patricia Sanchez.

Also in attendance was Secretary Mavanee Loftus.

President Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chad Lloyd offered the reverence and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #2. – CONSENT AGENDA. President Johnson called for objections on the consent agenda. Since there were no objections, the consent agenda received Board approval.

ITEM #2.A. – APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Minutes from the February 26, 2014, Work Session, Board meeting, and Closed meeting were approved.

ITEM #2.B. – APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEES. The following individuals were approved for employment: **Brett Beagley** as the assistant principal/teacher at South Sevier High, and **Krista Nielson** as the administrative secretary at the District Office.

ITEM #2.C. – BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2014-15 – SECOND READING. The proposed Board Meeting calendar received second reading approval.

INSERT A

ITEM #2.D. – PART B INDIAN APPLICATION & ASSURANCES. The proposed application and assurances received Board approval.

INSERT B

ITEM #2.E. – FINANCIAL SUMMARY. The financial summary for the period ending February 28, 2014, was approved as well as the list of checks issued in February 2014.

ITEM #3. – PATRON DIALOGUE. There was no patron dialogue.

ITEM #4.A. – DISCUSSION – ITEMS FROM THE BOARD.

- Board members were informed of the USBA Regional Meeting on Tuesday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken of those who would be attending the meeting.
- Mr. Hansen suggested that the District send a thank you card/gift to USSA President Patti Harrington in recognition of all of her hard work and efforts at this year's legislative session. She kept everyone well informed on the status of the bills relating to public education via email.

ITEM #4.B. – DISCUSSION – ITEMS FROM ADMINISTRATION.

**Items from Superintendent Douglas**

- Superintendent Douglas provided a legislative update and reported that of the 786 bills at this year's legislative session, 145 were education related. He expressed appreciation for the time and efforts of Senator Okerlund in passing the concurrent enrollment bill, which is huge for

rural districts. He also expressed thanks to Representative McIff for his efforts in facilitating the Sevier Valley Center classroom buyout. He provided further information on other bills affecting education.

- Superintendent Douglas explained that YPP is moving to an Acuity Platform. The transition would take place this summer and will provide the same questions and information, however, tracked differently. Also, it will provide more detailed reports in common core strands and is half the cost of the current YPP program.

- Superintendent Douglas informed the group that Governor Herbert would be visiting Monroe Elementary on Wednesday, March 26 at 9:00 a.m. to sign the state tree bill. This will be a great opportunity for students to learn about the bill signing process. Board members were invited to attend.

- Online/Charter Schools update: Superintendent Douglas explained that an online charter school called Athenian Academy had applied to have their services available in Sevier County; however, their application didn't pass. Charter and online schools are required by law to teach the same core as well as use the same assessment as all public schools. There is a need to educate parents about charter schools and what they offer compared to public schools. Superintendent expressed his opinion about why parents are fearful of the common core; he felt there is a belief out there that it somewhat follows the same mentality of Obamacare or that state and local control will be taken away. Teachers are looking forward to the common core training that will be offered during the summer months.

- Superintendent Douglas provided information in regards to high school scheduling. Principals have been given the liberty to come up with a schedule that is most beneficial within the District's parameters. North Sevier High will continue with a Wed-Thurs modified block; Richfield High will stay with the traditional schedule, and South Sevier High will be on the 5x5 block schedule.

- Superintendent Douglas reported that SB 103, Local Control of Classroom Time Requirements sponsored by Senator Osmond had passed. He felt that the legislature was starting to realize the extreme need for professional development. The bill proposed four of the 180 days be used for professional development; however, there's concern that it would take away from instructional time. He asked the Board to give this some thought and provide input into altering the District's school year calendar to accommodate the professional development days. A revised calendar would need to come before the Board for approval at a future meeting. Mrs. Albrecht commented that feedback would also be gathered from principals and teachers on providing those days without taking instruction time away from students.

- Superintendent Douglas stated that the District is looking into a texting system called Remind 101, which provides a safe site for teachers and administrators to use to send mass text messages at no cost. With several of the incidents that have happened throughout the school year, there is a greater demand to better communicate with parents. Having Twitter and Remind 101 available to parents, many of the communication problems would be alleviated. He encouraged Board members to sign up for the Remind 101 service.

- Superintendent Douglas read the police report on the accidental shooting that happened on March 18. The incident occurred after school hours and not on school property. Two elementary students, ages eight and nine, who are also cousins, were riding in the back seat of a

vehicle when the boy accidentally shot the girl in the abdomen. It was reported that she was expected to make a full recovery. The District is working closely with the Richfield Police Dept. to ensure that it will be safe for the student to return to school as well as provide counseling.

#### **Items from *Gail Albrecht***

- Mrs. Albrecht informed the group that the District had conducted interviews for a liaison for the Upstart online preschool program. This individual would be helping families set up the program in their homes. Reference checks are in the process and will be completed soon so the new liaison can attend the first training scheduled for March 27.
- Mrs. Albrecht provided a technology/voted leeway update and praised Mr. Torgersen for his efforts and hard work. All of the principals have had their committee's review the school level applications and pick the top three. The District committee has met three times and has reviewed the rubric and the applications in greater detail.
- Mrs. Albrecht reminded the group of the Rachel's Challenge assembly scheduled for Monday, April 14 at Richfield High School. High school students will attend the assembly at 9:00 a.m. and middle school students at 12 noon. They will select a group of leadership students who will continue the program in the schools. The community/parent meeting is at 6:00 p.m. at Richfield High School and admission is free.
- Mrs. Albrecht provided a School Resource Officer (SRO) update and reported that at the last principals meeting the District asked for feedback from the principals about how the program is working. She shared one of the principal's experiences about a recent incident at a school and that by having a resource officer close by made a great impact on the situation. The resource officer program is working well throughout the District.
- Mrs. Albrecht reported that the spring NWEA assessment would not be administered this year. The District will no longer be using NWEA. The Direct Writing assessment has been completed, which is only given to 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The ACT is given to 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and is also completed. The SAGE test includes a writing component, which begins April 7 and is a combination of computer and human scoring.

The SAGE assessment for reading, language arts, math, and science starts on April 28. The state doesn't test kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students; they only start testing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. The early grades will receive a small portion of NWEA's MAP for Early Grades test. The state requires districts to notify parents about their student's reading abilities, which is measured through the DIBLES testing for early grades. The goal here is that a student doesn't make it past the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade without their parents knowing that they can't read on grade level. The SAGE writing assessment is both a combination of computer and human scoring.

#### **Items from *Chad Lloyd***

- Mr. Lloyd provided a construction update, including showing pictures of the construction site. The excavation work and backfill for the most part are completed. The plans for the RHS construction project were available today, March 19, and a walkthrough with the contractors will be on March 20. The bid opening is scheduled for Thursday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m.
- Mr. Lloyd explained the need to move the April 16 Board meeting to Tuesday, April 8 and to also schedule a work session that same day beginning at 1:00 p.m. The work session would include an update on the RHS project by Mr. Wilson and KMA Architects. Mr. Lloyd also

explained that there had been some confusion on the SIOQ for KMA in regards to the insurance amount. KMA has experienced some problems with their insurance company in regards to the amounts of insurance agreed upon in the contract. The insurance company felt the amounts were in excess. Mr. Lloyd mentioned that he had discussed this with Mr. Wilson and he had stated that he felt comfortable with the proposed limits and recommended a revision to the contract. The Board would need to take action to allow the District to proceed with the new language in the contract.

- Mr. Lloyd provided an update in regards to the (Zions) Contango investments. The District allowed Contango to invest a portion of the bond proceeds that wouldn't be used in the next 18-24 months. They were also allowed to invest some of the other proceeds/cash reserves. At this time, they've been able to invest \$3.7 million, which are low risk type of investments. The interest rate on that amount is averaging 1.5 percent versus the PTIF, which is .5 percent. Over a year's time, the District could generate \$60,000 worth of interest versus \$18,000.
- Superintendent Douglas commented on the Sevier Valley Center classroom buyout and the process that would take place in making a smooth transition for students.

He expressed appreciation to Mr. Lloyd, Mrs. Albrecht, and Mr. Kyhl for all they contribute to the District administrative team.

**ITEM #5. – CLOSED MEETINGS.** A motion was made at 4:31 p.m. by Jack Hansen and seconded by Don Naser to take a break and go into the Closed Meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual(s). Voting went as follows: yes – Clint Johnson, Jack Hansen, Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr. Motion passed.

In attendance were President Clint Johnson, Vice President Jack Hansen, members Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr as were Superintendent Cade Douglas, Assistant Superintendent Gail Albrecht, Business Administrator Chad Lloyd, Executive Secretary Patricia Sanchez, and newly hired Executive Secretary Krista Nielson.

A motion was made at p.m. by 5:20 p.m. by Richard Orr and seconded by Jack Hansen to go out of the Closed Meeting. Voting went as follows: yes – Clint Johnson, Jack Hansen, Tom Hales, Don Naser, and Richard Orr. Motion passed.

**ITEM #6. – ACTION ITEMS.** A motion was made by Don Naser and seconded by Jack Hansen to change the language of the contract with KMA Architects in regards to insurance coverage on the Richfield High School construction project. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Richard Orr and seconded by Jack Hansen to change the April Board Meeting from Wednesday, April 16, 2014, to Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at 3:00 p.m. and to also schedule a work session at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Don Naser and seconded by Richard Orr to accept the Board resolution in regards to the Reduction-in-Force (RIF) for the 2013-14 school year. Motion passed unanimously.

INSERT C

**A motion was made by Don Naser and seconded by Tom Hales to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent in regards to non-renewals of employee contracts as discussed. Motion passed unanimously.**

There was further discussion about the Remind 101 texting system.

**A motion was made at 5:27 p.m. by Don Naser and seconded by Jack Hansen to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

*I certify that upon motion duly made, seconded and passed, the Board of Education of the Sevier School District approved the foregoing minutes on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014. I further certify that a quorum of the Board was present on both the day covered by these minutes and the day of approval.*

---

*Chad W. Lloyd, Business Administrator*